

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 DOTE-00

TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03

L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01 CIEP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0028

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 14308

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, RP

SUBJ: CIVAIR: PAL REQUIREMENT FOR EMERGENCY FUEL
SUPPLIES IN US

REF: A. STATE 248152

B. MANILA 13649

C. MANILA 13466

1. THROUGH CALTEX AND PHILIPPINE AIRLINES SOURCES
WE INFORMED THAT PAL EXEC VY IGOA NOW IN SAN FRANCISCO
ATTEMPTING ARRANGE EMERGENCY FUEL SUPPLIES TO
ENABLE AIRLINE TO CONTINUE OPERATING OUT OF SAN
FRANCISCO FOR REMAINDER OF DECEMBER. OUTLOOK FOR FUEL
SUPPLY IN JANUARY ALSO CRITICAL, WITH ONLY 10 PERCENT OF
NORMAL REQUIREMENTS AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY. BACKGROUND OF
PROBLEM OUTLINED MANILA REFTELS AND STEMS FROM VIRTUAL
UNAVAILABILITY OF BONDED FUEL.

2. WE RECOGNIZE THAT MECHANISM FOR ALLOCATING AND
DISTRIBUTING MILITARY JET FUEL TO INTERNATIONAL
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CARRIERS REPORTED REF A MAY NOT YET BE SET UP, BUT

WE HOPEFUL DEPARTMENT CAN ASSIST IN EMERGENCY ALLOCATION TO PAL BASED ON EARLIER (DEC 8) APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL HARDSHIP CONSIDERATION. URGENT ACTION REQUIRED IN ORDER PREVENT PAL FROM BEING FORCED TO CANCEL SERVICE OUT OF SAN FRANCISCO AT TIME OF HEAVY PASSENGER TRAFFIC UNDER PRESIDENT MARCOS' HOMECOMING PROGRAM. CANCELLATION WOULD BE MATTER OF IMMEDIATE AND DEEP CONCERN AND EMBARRASSMENT TO PRESIDENT, ESPECIALLY IF SIZEABLE NUMBER SUCH TRAVELERS STRANDED, AND WE CONSIDER IT LIKELY TO CAUSE RETALIATORY ACTION BY GOP AGAINST PANAM AND NWA AT MANILA.

3. BOTH AMERICAN CARRIERS ARE RECEIVING ADEQUATE FUEL SUPPLIES AT MANILA DESPITE GOP-ORDERED OVERALL 30 PERCENT CUTBACK OF AVIATION FUEL DELIVERIES. AS NOTED REF C, PANAM ADEQUATELY SUPPLIED FOR CURRENT SCHEDULES AND SEASONAL CHARTERS OWING TO HIGH UPLIFT LEVEL DURING HISTORICAL BASE PERIOD. NWA HAS RECEIVED SPECIAL AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE UNDIMINISHED FUEL DELIVERIES AFTER APPEAL TO GOP CITING NEED TO SERVICE LARGE VOLUME OF HOMECOMING PASSENGERS. NO PUBLICITY HAS BEEN GIVEN THIS ALLOCATION, AND NWA WISHES IT CLOSELY HELD. NEITHER AIRLINE HAS RECEIVED ANY INDICATION OF CHANGE IN FUEL ALLOCATIONS FOR JANUARY.

4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR AVIATION FUEL ALLOCATION TRANSFERRED DEC. 20 FROM CAA DIRECTOR SINGSON TO CG PHIL AIR FORCE RANCUDO. WE ASSUME THAT GUIDELINES REPORTED MANILA 13717 CONTINUE IN FORCE. AMERICAN CARRIERS HAVE EXPERIENCED NO DIFFICULTIES IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOP ALLOCATION AUTHORITIES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT TAKE UP WITH FEDERAL ENERGY OFFICE POSSIBILITY OF EMERGENCY ALLOCATION TO PAL EITHER IN RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL HARDSHIP CONSIDERATION OR AS INTERIM STEP TO PREVENT DISRUPTION OF SERVICE. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT COORDINATE ACTION WITH CALTEX (FRANK ZINGARO) IN NEW YORK (CHEVRON IS PAL SUPPLYING CARRIER IN SAN FRANCISCO AND HONOLULU). REQUEST EMBASSY BE ADVISED BY OOB DEC. 28 STATUS OF LIKELY ACTIONS ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEHALF OF PAL IN VIEW NEED TO DEAL WITH POSSIBLE TOP-LEVEL GOP INQUIRY ON SUBJECT.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, SUPPLIES, JET FUEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANILA14308
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973125/aaaaadpi.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 248152
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Dec-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <21-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: PAL REQUIREMENT FOR EMERGENCY FUEL SUPPLIES IN US
TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, RP, PAL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005